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A paper on "The Geology of Lake and Porter Counties," by W. S. Batchley, is devoted mainly to the physiography of the two counties. The author states that the discussion is limited to this phase of geology "since not a single outcrop of rock occurs in the two counties." A considerable portion of the paper is devoted to the discussion of glacial phenomena.

An economic paper by the same author discusses "The Clays and Clay Industries of Northwestern Indiana." The paper treats in some detail of the origin, varieties, properties, impurities of clays and their analyses. Statistics are also given concerning the clay industry.

"Report on the Niagara Limestone Quarries" is the subject of a paper by August Foerste. This report contains a discussion of the uses, properties, and distribution of the stone. From this paper we learn that the variety known as "Laurel limestone" is the most valuable variety; that it occurs in natural slabs, is easily quarried, requires little dressing, is of a handsome color, and is very hard and durable.

The palæontology of the state receives attention through E. M. Kindle, who has prepared a "Catalogue of the Fossils of Indiana." The report also indicates the geological horizon of the species, and is accompanied by a bibliography of Indiana palæontology.

A contribution to the ornithological literature of the state is found in a paper entitled "The Birds of Indiana," by A. W. Butler. The paper contains descriptions of 321 species which have been identified within the state. It also treats of the songs, habits, and times of arrival and departure, of the birds.

Other papers in the report discuss mines, natural gas, and petroleum.  
W. N. L.

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*Sixth Annual Report Iowa Geological Survey*, Vol. VIII. By SAMUEL CALVIN, State Geologist. Des Moines, 1897.

This volume embodies the results of field work covering an area of five counties. An important part of the work has consisted in a careful determination of the location and extent of mineral deposits, clays, building stones, and other economic resources, including a valuable discussion of the drift sheets and other surface formations preliminary to a complete description of the soils of the state.

Of great interest to the people of Iowa will be the tabulated statis-

tics, at the beginning of the volume, relative to the year's economic production. The report closes with a paper on the "Properties and Tests of Iowa Building Stones," by H. Foster Bain, which cannot fail to prove of inestimable local value.

Although the directing motive in the work of the survey has been toward economic and practical ends, this report contains, as have preceding volumes, many discussions of general scientific interest. The treatment of strictly geological features, especially in their physiographic aspects, for thoroughness of preparation and clearness of presentation will prove, beyond doubt, to be a source of great interest to the geologists of the country.

The volume is admirably printed, and besides containing many new maps and diagrams, is judiciously illustrated by an expressive collection of photographs in half tone.

J. W. F.